

was considered and agreed to. The subject of the President of the United States as relates to the tariff of duties on imports, to the collection, custody, and disbursement of the public moneys, to the establishment of a branch mint in California, and the re-organization of the Federal Government generally, were referred to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. BRESEE submitted the following resolution, which was considered and agreed to:

*Resolved*, That so much of the President's message as relates to the tariff, the collection and disbursement of the public moneys, and the establishment of a branch mint in California, and all other matters pertaining to the subject of the public lands contained in the said message, be referred to the Committee on the Public Lands.

**RAILROAD ACROSS THE ISTHMUS OF PANAMA.**

Mr. BENTON moved that the Senate proceed to the consideration of the bill, the title of which is, "A bill to make compensation for the transportation of troops and supplies, for a limited time, over the isthmus of Panama;" which motion was agreed to.

Mr. BENTON then said: Mr. President, the object of that bill has been very fully set forth by the petition of the merchants, who have petitioned the Senate several days since, and the bill is so framed as to give satisfaction to the use of its members, and reprinted in the newspapers in this city and many newspapers throughout the country.

The object which the petition so fully and yet so briefly and clearly points out, needs nothing at all from me to enhance it in the estimation of this body or the country. It is vain, sir, to enlarge upon the subject. The great object, favored by all, is to save time and transportation and expenditures, and to commendation from me.

The bill, Mr. President, puts into the hands of the Secre-